

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method is provided of at least partially securing communications, via a HIP proxy (16), between a first host (12) which is not HIP enabled and a second host (14) which is HIP enabled, the method comprising: sending (A) a query from the first host (12) to resolve the IP address of the second host (14); in response to said query, retrieving (B, C) an IP address (IP_{fa}) and HIT (HIT_{hip}) associated with the second host (14), returning (E) from the proxy (16) a substitute IP address (IP_{res}) associated with the second host (14), and maintaining (D) at the proxy (16) a mapping between the substitute IP address (IP_{res}), the retrieved IP address (IP_{fa}) and the retrieved HIT (HIT_{hip}); and upon receipt (F) of a session initiation message (TCP SYN) at the proxy (16) from the first host (12) including as its destination address the substitute IP address (IP_{res}), using the mapping to negotiate a secure HIP connection (22) between the proxy (16) and the second host (14).